

## I/WE CLAIM:

- 1 1. In a method of making a circuit board holder,  
 2 the improvement comprising in combination:  
 3 providing said circuit board holder with a face  
 4 plate and with walls projecting from an inside of said  
 5 face plate;  
 6 equipping a pair of opposite ones of said walls with  
 7 circuit board retainers; and  
 8 equipping said circuit board holder with a holder  
 9 retainer for releasably retaining said circuit board  
 10 holder in said aperture of the panel.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1,  
 2 wherein:  
 3 at least one of another pair of said walls is  
 4 provided with a lateral opening covering more than one  
 5 half of that one wall.
- 1 3. A method as in claim 1,  
 2 wherein:  
 3 said circuit board retainers are provided inside of  
 4 said circuit board holder.
- 1 4. A method as in claim 1,  
 2 wherein:  
 3 said circuit board retainers are provided externally  
 4 of an inside space of said circuit board holder.
- 1 5. A method as in claim 1,  
 2 wherein:  
 3 said circuit board retainers are provided inside of  
 4 said circuit board holder and externally of an inside

1 space of said circuit board holder.

1 6. A method as in claim 1,  
2 wherein:

3 a circuit board is inserted into said circuit board  
4 holder and is substantially retained in a first direction  
5 inside of said circuit board holder and is substantially  
6 retained in a second direction externally of an inside  
7 space of said circuit board holder.

1 7. A method as in claim 1,  
2 wherein:

3 said pair of opposite walls is provided with  
4 extensions beyond said inside of the circuit board holder;  
5 and

6 said extensions are equipped with external circuit  
7 board retainers.

1 8. A method as in claim 1,  
2 wherein:

3 said circuit board retainers are shaped as spaced  
4 rails for slideably receiving a circuit board.

1 9. A method as in claim 1,  
2 wherein:

3 said circuit board retainers are shaped as several  
4 spaced rails in each of said pair of opposite walls for  
5 slideably receiving at least one circuit board at one of  
6 several levels in said circuit board holder.

1 10. A method as in claim 1,  
2 wherein:

3 said holder retainer is shaped as a resilient snap  
4 for releasably retaining said circuit board holder in a

1 panel.

1 11. A method as in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 said holder retainer is shaped as a pair of  
4 resilient snaps at said pair of opposite walls for  
5 releasably retaining said circuit board holder in a panel.

1 12. A method as in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 a circuit board is inserted in said circuit board  
4 holder and is releasably retained with said circuit board  
5 retainers inside of said circuit board holder.

1 13. A method as in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 said circuit board holder is provided with external  
4 circuit board retainers in addition to internal circuit  
5 board retainers; and

6 a circuit board is inserted in said circuit board  
7 holder and is releasably retained with said internal  
8 circuit board retainers inside of said circuit board  
9 holder and is releasably retained in said circuit board  
10 holder with said external circuit board retainers.

1 14. A method as in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 said circuit board holder is provided with spaced  
4 external circuit board retainers in addition to internal  
5 circuit board retainers;

6 a circuit board is provided with a frontal portion  
7 of reduced width relative to a subsequent main portion of  
8 said circuit board; and

1        said circuit board is inserted in said circuit  
 2 board holder by inserting said frontal portion of reduced  
 3 width in between said spaced external circuit board  
 4 retainers and by thereupon forcing apart said spaced  
 5 external circuit board retainers with said main portion of  
 6 said circuit board and continuing insertion of said  
 7 circuit board into said circuit board holder so that said  
 8 circuit board is releasably retained with said internal  
 9 circuit board retainers inside of said circuit board  
 10 holder and is stabilized in said circuit board holder with  
 11 said external circuit board retainers.

1    15. A method as in claim 1,  
 2        wherein:

3        said circuit board retainers are shaped as spaced  
 4 rails for slideably receiving a circuit board; and  
 5        said circuit board holder is equipped with circuit  
 6 board accommodations at said rails at a distance from a  
 7 rear of said face plate.

1    16. A method as in claim 1,  
 2        wherein:

3        said circuit board retainers are shaped as spaced  
 4 rails for slideably receiving a circuit board; and  
 5        said circuit board holder is equipped with circuit  
 6 board stops at said rails at a distance from a rear of  
 7 said face plate.

1    17. A method as in claim 1,  
 2        wherein:

3        said circuit board holder is provided with spaced  
 4 external circuit board retainers in addition to internal

1 circuit board retainers;

2 a circuit board is provided with catches  
3 corresponding to said external circuit board retainers;  
4 and

5 said circuit board is inserted in said circuit  
6 board holder and is retained in said circuit board holder  
7 with said external circuit board retainers and  
8 corresponding catches.

1 18. A method as in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 said holder retainer is provided with serrations  
4 for mounting said circuit board holder in different  
5 mounting panels.

7 19. A method as in claim 1,

8 including:

9 providing a panel with an aperture for receiving  
10 said circuit board holder;

11 providing said panel with a slot at said aperture  
12 for access to said holder retainer through said panel; and

13 effecting release of said holder retainer through  
14 said slot for removal of said circuit board holder from  
15 said panel.

1 20. A method as in claim 1,

2 including:

3 shaping said holder retainer as a resilient snap  
4 for releasably retaining said circuit board holder in a  
5 panel;

6 providing a panel with an aperture for receiving  
7 said circuit board holder;

8 providing said panel with a slot at said aperture  
9 for access to said resilient snap through said panel; and

1           effecting release of said resilient snap through  
2 said slot for removal of said circuit board holder from  
3 said panel.

1 21. A method as in claim 20,

2           including:

3           providing a tool insertable through said slot; and

4           releasing said resilient snap with said tool  
5 through said slot in said panel.

1 22. A method of mounting a device in an aperture of a  
2 panel, comprising in combination:

3           providing said device with a resilient snap for  
4 releasably retaining said device in said panel at said  
5 aperture;

6           providing said panel with a slot at said aperture  
7 for access to said resilient snap through said panel; and

8           releasing said resilient snap through said slot for  
9 removal of said device from said panel.

1 23. A method as in claim 22,

2           including:

3           providing a tool insertable through said slot; and

4           releasing said resilient snap with said tool  
5 through said slot in said panel.

1 24. A method as in claim 22,

2           wherein:

3           said holder retainer is provided with serrations  
4 for mounting said resilient snap in different mounting  
5 panels.

1 25. A circuit board holder,

2           comprising in combination:

1           a face plate and walls projecting from an inside of  
 2 said face plate;  
 3           circuit board retainers at a pair of opposite ones  
 4 of said walls; and  
 5           a holder retainer at an edge of said face plate.

1 26. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
 2       wherein:  
 3           at least one of another pair of said walls has a  
 4 lateral opening covering more than one half of that one  
 5 wall.

1 27. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
 2       wherein:  
 3           said circuit board retainers are inside of said  
 4 circuit board holder.

1 28. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
 2       wherein:  
 3           said circuit board retainers are external of an  
 4 inside space of said circuit board holder.

1 29. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
 2       wherein:  
 3           said circuit board retainers are inside of said  
 4 circuit board holder and are external of an inside space  
 5 of said circuit board holder.

1 30. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
 2       wherein:  
 3           said pair of opposite walls has extensions beyond  
 4 an inside of the circuit board holder; and  
 5           circuit board retainers are on said extensions.

1 31. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 wherein:

3 said circuit board retainers include spaced rails  
4 on said pair of opposite walls inside of said circuit  
5 board holder.

1 32. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 wherein:

3 said circuit board retainers include several spaced  
4 rails in each of said pair of opposite walls.

1 33. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 wherein:

3 said holder retainer is a resilient snap.

1 34. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 wherein:

3 said holder retainer includes a pair of resilient  
4 snaps at said pair of opposite walls.

1 35. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 including:

3 an inserted circuit board extending across said  
4 circuit board holder between said pair of opposite walls  
5 and circuit board retainers.

1 36. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 including:

3 extensions of said pair of opposite walls beyond an  
4 inside of the circuit board holder;

5 circuit board retainers on said extensions; and

6 an inserted circuit board extending across said  
7 circuit board holder between said pair of opposite walls  
8 and extending between said circuit board retainers on said



1 extensions.

2 37. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,

3 wherein:

4 said circuit board retainers include spaced rails  
5 on said pair of opposite walls inside of said circuit  
6 board holder; and

7 said circuit board holder has circuit board  
8 accommodations at said rails at a distance from a rear of  
9 said face plate.

1 38. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,

2 wherein:

3 said circuit board retainers include spaced rails  
4 on said pair of opposite walls inside of said circuit  
5 board holder; and

6 said circuit board holder has circuit board stops  
7 at said rails at a distance from a rear of said face  
8 plate.

1 39. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,

2 including:

3 an inserted circuit board having lateral catches  
4 externally of a space inside said circuit board holder;

5 extensions of said pair of opposite walls; and

6 circuit board retainers on said extensions and  
7 lateral catches.

1 40. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,

2 including:

3 an aperture in said face plate; and

4 a signal lamp in said aperture.

1 41. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,

2 including:

1 panel-accommodating serrations in said holder  
2 retainer.

1 42. A circuit board holder as in claim 25,  
2 in combination with:

3 a panel having an aperture adapted to receive said  
4 walls of said circuit board holder behind said face plate;  
5 and

6 a slot in said panel at said aperture exposing said  
7 holder retainer through said panel at an edge of said  
8 aperture in said panel.

1 43. A combination as in claim 42,  
2 including:

3 a holder retainer release tool having lateral  
4 dimensions smaller than said slot.

1 44. In combination:

2 a panel having an aperture;

3 a device retained in said aperture by a resilient  
4 snap at an edge of said aperture; and

5 a slot in said panel at said aperture exposing said  
6 resilient snap through said panel at an edge of said  
7 aperture in said panel.

1 45. A combination as in claim 44,

2 including:

3 a snap release tool having lateral dimensions  
4 smaller than said slot.

1 46. A combination as in claim 44,

2 including:

3 panel-accommodating serrations in said resilient  
4 snap.